



December 1, 2017

Ex Parte Notice

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: *Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, November 29, 2017, the undersigned, on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”), spoke via telephone with Jay Schwarz, wireline advisor to Chairman Ajit Pai.

During the conversation, NTCA reiterated the need to remedy shortfalls in high-cost universal service fund (“USF”) support that are undermining the effectiveness of the model-based and cost-based USF programs. NTCA urged the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) to pursue readily available paths toward helping to mitigate the insufficiency of USF support where possible, including but not limited to the immediate use of existing program reserves to help address some of the harmful shortfalls pending further examination of the program budget and consideration of additional measures to promote longer-term predictability and sufficiency. *See Ex Parte* Letter from Michael R. Romano, Sr. Vice President, NTCA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 15, 2017).

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael R. Romano
Michael R. Romano
Senior Vice President –
Industry Affairs & Business Development

cc: Jay Schwarz